

Missourian SportsWeek

Boris the great
German wins Wimbledon
at age 17. See Pages 4B-5B.



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Good Morning! It's Monday, July 8, 1985

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Court probe called for in Linzie death

By Steven Bernish and Betsy Ring
Missourian staff writers

Friends and relatives of Kimberly Anne Linzie, killed by Columbia police Wednesday, called Sunday for a grand jury investigation into her death.

About 250 people marched from the St. Luke Methodist Church, where Linzie's funeral was held Sunday, to Columbia Police Department to protest the 19-year-old woman's death.

On the steps of police headquarters, the crowd sang "We Shall Overcome" and heard two Columbia ministers call for justice in the shooting death, which one march organizer called a "racial incident."

"We do not gather to cause more violence, but we gather to stop all violence and ring a bell around the world," said the Rev. Raymond A. Prisce, minister of the Fifth Street Christian Church. "We believe an injustice has been done."

Added the Rev. Harold Butler Jr., pastor of Progressive Missionary Baptist Church, "We are saying we are not pleased with what has happened on the streets of our city."

"We'll do whatever it takes to have justice served," said Sarah-belle Jackson, an organizer of the protest.

Later, at a meeting at the Second Baptist Church, 407 E. Broadway, march participants were handed petitions calling on Boone County Circuit Court Presiding Judge Frank Conley to order a grand jury investigation into Linzie's death.

Linzie was killed by a police bullet through the heart Wednesday afternoon after four police officers fired 12 shots into her car at the corner of Broadway and William Street.

The shooting occurred after police pursued Linzie, who was driving a car that Tammy Mayfield, the car's owner and a friend of Linzie's, had reported stolen. Mayfield and Linzie had quarreled about the car shortly before Linzie's fatal confrontation with police.

At Sunday's meeting, religious and community leaders asked the crowd to call their council members today to tell them how they feel about the killing.

"Sometimes a community needs shock treatment," said James Linzie, a spokesman for the Linzie family. "Don't let this opportunity pass."

"Ring those phones, tell them you want an independent investigation," Linzie said. "If you do your part, justice will prevail."

Mary Ratliff, local chapter president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said, "We have got to let city hall know that we expect justice."

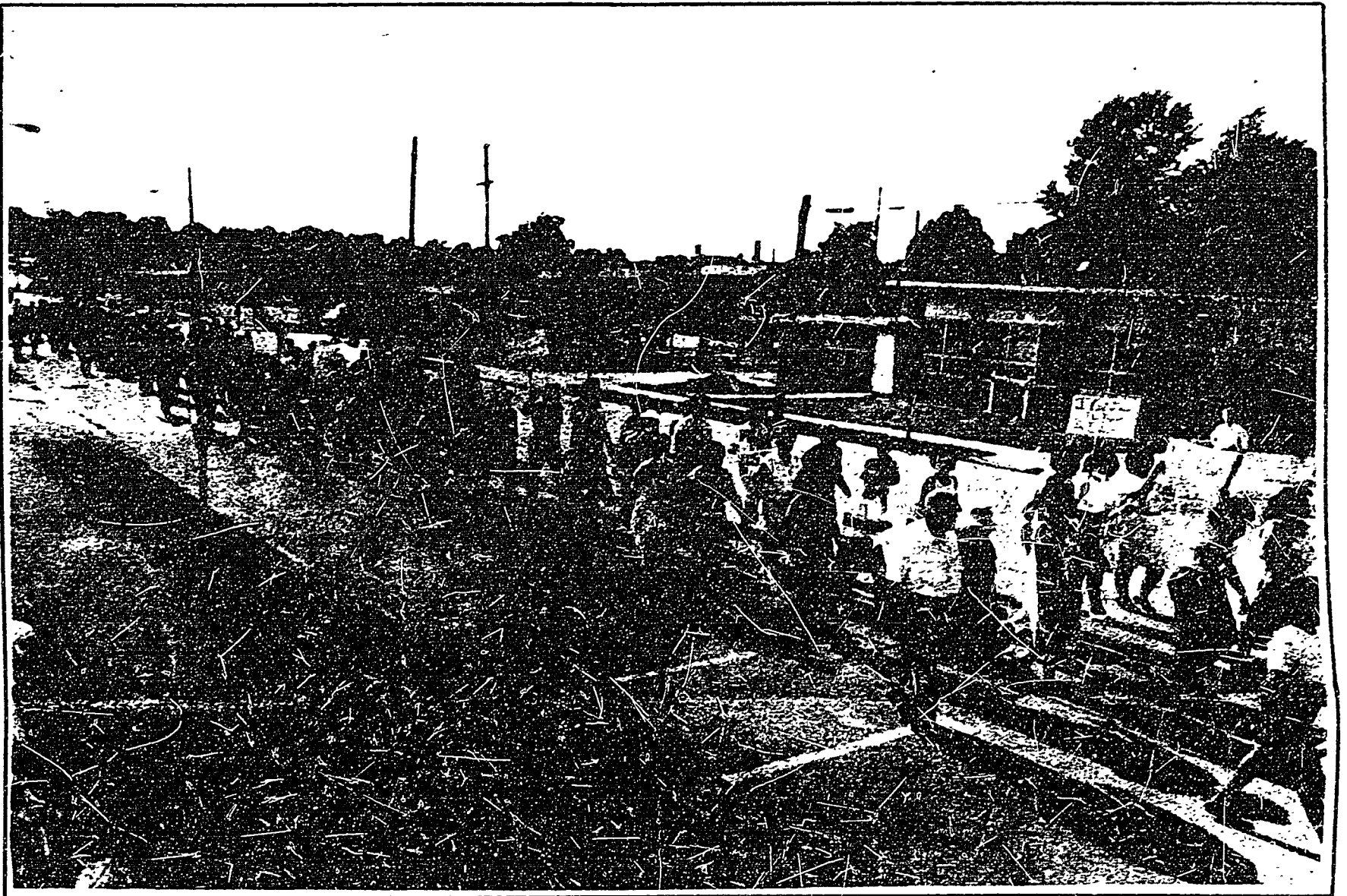
During Linzie's emotion-packed funeral, about 200 people crammed into the small brick church, spilling outside the tiny building.

The heat of the day was pierced by cries of sorrow during the service.

A memorial leaflet was given to the mourners containing a poem written by Linzie that included an eerie premonition of her death. The poem, entitled, "Heaven," read in part:

It was harder to live than it was to die,
but the hard thing now is seeing you cry.

My pain is gone, I have no sore,
I finally reached that golden door.
So forget me not I live no more.



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Almost 250 protesters opposed to the police shooting of Kimberly Linzie march down Ash Street.

Jim Kelly

Workers face toxic exposure

By Penny Loeb
Missourian staff writer

Julie Schlotter is a graphic artist at the University printing plant. It's not a job usually considered a health hazard.

But last fall, her job made her so sick she couldn't work. As soon as she walked in the door, she started gasping for breath and feeling like she was going to vomit. At home, her symptoms disappeared.

Her supervisors and University health and safety officials were mystified. Like detectives, they searched for the culprit among dozens of chemicals used at the plant.

A clue was the noxious odor from a new developing machine. The cause of Schlotter's illness was found to be two chemicals in the paper that came with the machine — dimethylamine and iodoform, which is widely used in hospital disinfectants.

Jerry Dickerson, plant safety manager, had checked the machine and chemicals before it was installed. "The chemical (iodoform) is very close to what is used to sterilize hospitals," he says. "I thought it would be all right."

The plant managers got rid of the machine. Schlotter came back to work and was fine.

In a two-month investigation, the Missourian looked at chemicals in University workplaces and at the city wastewater treatment and power plants.

These locations were chosen because the University is the largest employer in Columbia with 19,000 workers, and because University and city workers are public employees and, therefore, ineligible for protection provided by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

The Missourian interviewed four dozen workers, occupational health experts and University and city officials. A dozen government documents about chemicals, as well as scientific tests were examined. The results found:

— Ten workers who became ill from chemical exposure. Three illnesses appear to be short-term. Seven may be chronic. Four of these workers filed workers' compensation cases against the University.

— University and city officials try to protect workers against chemicals. But sometimes they fail. The reasons are partly beyond their control: lack of information about chemicals, incorrect machinery design, lack of money and not enough manpower.

— A number of workers are afraid to complain about working with hazardous chemicals. They would rather endanger their health than lose their jobs. Two workers asked that their



Vince Bell says his hands crack after handling chemical wastes.

Kerry Clark

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School board says tax rate may drop \$1

By Nammi Bhagvandas
Missourian staff writer

The Columbia Board of Education is expected to decrease the school tax rate by about a dollar after a public hearing on the topic Monday night.

The hearing will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Administration Building, 1818 W. Worley St.

School administrators have recommended that the tax rate, which is \$4.14 per \$100 assessed valuation, be decreased to \$3.05 for 1985-86.

The new rate is expected to generate about \$13.82 million in taxes, said Kevan Snell, director of business services.

All political subdivisions that levy a tax are barred from profiting from the reassessment of property in Boone County. The recommended \$3.05 rate is an estimate.

Secretary Hank Fisher said they would have waited to set the tax rate, but an estimate must be given to the county clerk to meet a July 15 deadline. However, it could change before Sept. 1, the deadline set by state law, if more information about property reassessment comes in from the county and the state.

"I anticipate there will be revision prior to Sept. 1," Fisher said.

The board also will address several housekeeping chores. Dennis Walker, president of the architectural firm P. John Hoerner Associates Inc., will present a report on the status of construction projects currently under way in the school district. He will present bids for projects designed and developed by his firm, including carpeting for Ridgeway Elementary School and Oakland Junior High School, installation of a sign at Rock Bridge Senior High School and folding tables for New Haven North Elementary School.

The board also must approve the secretary's annual report and application for state transportation aid so both can be submitted to the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education by the July 15 deadline.

In other business, the board is expected to retain David West as treasurer and Hank Fisher as secretary for 1985-86.

Recently elected member Steve Scott indicated he will introduce proposals to increase public involvement and understanding of the budget-making process.

Bay wants chocolate milk on school menu

By Nammi Bhagvandas
Missourian staff writer

Board of Education member Joan Bay says she will offer a resolution in September to bring chocolate milk back into the school district's lunch menu.

Bay said she's had many requests for the popular item. She said she is more concerned about students having a choice than whether chocolate milk is better than white milk or vice versa.

The issue was raised at a board meeting in May. Although the board approved without discussion an av-

erage 10.9 percent raise for teachers, administrators and staff, there was considerable debate at the meeting over the status of chocolate milk in the schools.

President Robert Harris said chocolate milk should not be on the menu because it has an ingredient in it that produces headaches, especially migraine headaches; that it aggravates behavior disorders in some hyperactive children and that a principal of nutrition should be to teach youngsters to eat a basic food in its natural state. Chocolate milk,

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